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SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND  
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

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NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: City of Orangeburg Multiple  
Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Orangeburg County Fair  
Main Exhibit Building

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

LOCATION: Orangeburg County Fair Grounds, Boulevard (U.S. Highway 21)

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: Orangeburg County Fair Association  
P.O. Box 726  
Orangeburg, S. C. 29115

DESCRIPTION

The Orangeburg County Fair Main Exhibit Building is a one-story, frame exhibition hall and grandstand building constructed in 1911. It was the central element in a complex including a racetrack, chicken exhibition house, stables, and other small buildings. Heinrich H. Johannsen, an Orangeburg architect and builder, provided plans for the buildings and structures and served as general contractor; the contract was let in September 1911 at \$8,000.(1) The Main Exhibit Building is the only one of these resources that remains intact.

The building is a one-story, frame hall, roughly rectangular, with an open, brick pier foundation, shiplap siding, and a low-pitched gable covered with standing seam metal. The south elevation and a projecting western wing are distinguished by curvilinear parapets. Each of these elevations has two cargo doorways with four multi-light windows above; the western doors have been framed in. A one-story frame extension is on the north side of the building.

The east elevation includes a frame grandstand, with two ranks of tiered seats flanking a central areaway. Tall wooden piers carry the roof structure.

## SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Agriculture  
Recreation  
Education  
Commerce

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: L (for office use only)

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Orangeburg County Fair Main Exhibit Building is significant for its association with the Orangeburg County Fair. (2) Besides providing recreation for the residents of the area, the fair encouraged the cultivation of better crops and the growing of better livestock, and provided exhibit space for commercial establishments.(3)

The Orangeburg County Fair Association was organized in July 1911 by the Orangeburg Chamber of Commerce and the Orangeburg County Farmers' Union. (4) By September the Main Exhibit Building was almost completed. The local newspaper reported that it would be "one of the most handsome fair buildings in the State." Various barns and a race-track (for horse, automobile, and motorcycle races) were also under construction. (5)

In November 1912 exhibits housed in the Main Exhibit Building included field crops, art, floral arrangements, and fancy work. There were also exhibits by the Boys' Corn Club, the Girls' Tomato Club, South Carolina State College, and various commercial enterprises, including the No-Filler Fertilizer Company, the Carolina Motor Company, and Hallett and Davis Pianos. Other attractions at the fair included a midway, motorcycle and automobile races, and comic acrobatic feats by White and Lamart.(6)

ACREAGE: Approximately 3.3 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary for the Orangeburg County Fair Main Exhibit Building nomination is shown as the heavy black line on the accompanying map entitled, "Orangeburg County Main Exhibit Building." The map was copied from Orangeburg County Tax Map No. 28 and is drawn at a scale of 200 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes the historic building and excludes non-historic buildings and structures located on the fairgrounds.

QUAD NAME: Orangeburg South

QUAD SCALE: 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/513665/3704340

OTHER INFORMATION:

#### FOOTNOTES

(1) Manufacturers Record, 7 September 1911, p. 77; Sanborn Map Company, Orangeburg, 1915.

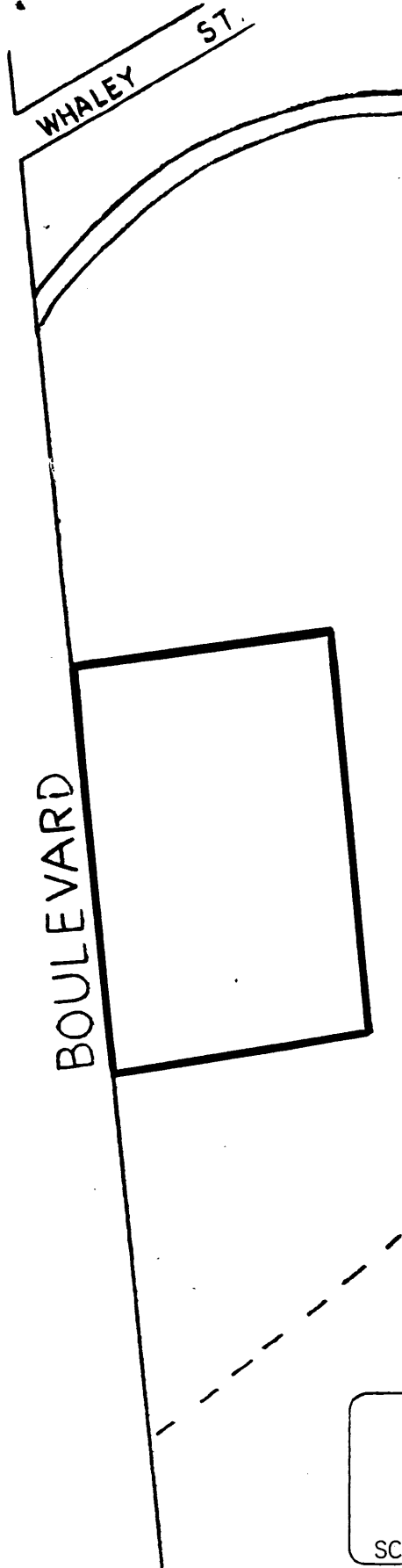
(2) Green and Fairey, p. 94; Chitty; United States, WPA, Guide to the Palmetto State, p. 320.

(3) Green and Fairey, p. 94.

(4) Ibid.

(5) Times and Democrat, 19 September 1911.

(6) Times and Democrat, 14 November 1912.



ORANGEBURG COUNTY FAIR  
MAIN EXHIBIT BUILDING  
SCALE 1" = 200'